Amendments to Claims

1. (Currently amended) Polyamide molding compositions having lowered melt viscosities comprising, in weight percent, about

   (a) 25 to 90% of a polyamide or polyamide blend;
   (b) 5 to 60% of an inorganic filler or reinforcing agent;
   (c) about 0.1 to 10% of non-melt-processible fluoropolymer particles having a standard specific gravity [an SSG] of less than about 2.225, said fluoropolymer particles comprising a core of high molecular weight polytetrafluoroethylene and a shell of lower molecular weight polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene;
   (d) 5 to 35% of a flame-retarding additive containing 50-70% bromine or chlorine; and
   (e) 1 to 10% of a flame retardant synergist.

2. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the synergist is selected from the group consisting of antimony trioxide, antimony pentoxide, sodium antimonate, and zinc borate.

3. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 further comprising up to 2 weight percent of a mold release agent.

4. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 further comprising up to 2 weight percent of a heat or UV stabilizer.

5. (Original) An article formed from the composition of Claim 1.

6. (Currently amended) The polyamide molding composition of claim 1 wherein the non-melt-processible fluoropolymer particles (c) are produced by a batch process comprising polymerizing tetrafluoroethylene in an aqueous medium in the presence a dispersing agent to produce fluoropolymer having a standard specific gravity [an SSG] of less than about 2.225, said polymerizing being carried out in a first stage during which a first amount of free radical initiator is added and a second stage during which a second amount of free radical initiator and a telogenic agent are added, said first amount of initiator producing polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity greater than about 1.2×10^{10} Pa·s, and said second

amount of initiator being at least about 10 times said first amount and being added before about 95% of the total tetrafluoroethylene has been polymerized, said second amount of initiator producing polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said first amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity greater than about 1.3×10^{10} Pa·s.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said first amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity greater than about 1.5×10^{10} Pa·s.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said first amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity of greater than about 1.0×10^{10} Pa·s before about 30% of the total tetrafluoroethylene has been polymerized.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said second amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity greater than about 9×10^{9} Pa·s and less than the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene of said core.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said second amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity at least 0.1×10^{10} Pa·s less than the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene produced during said first stage.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said second amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity at least 0.2×10^{10} Pa·s less than the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene produced during said first stage.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said second amount of initiator produces polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene having an average melt creep viscosity about 9×10^{9} Pa·s to about 1.3×10^{10} Pa·s.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein in said process said second amount of initiator and said telogenic agent are added when at least about 70% of the total tetrafluoroethylene has been polymerized.

15. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene of said core of said fluoropolymer particles (c) is greater than about 1.2×10^{10} Pa·s.

16. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene of said core of said fluoropolymer particles (c) is greater than about 1.3×10^{10} Pa·s.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene of said core of said fluoropolymer particles (c) is greater than about 1.5×10^{10} Pa·s.

18. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein in said fluoropolymer particles (c) the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene of said shell is greater than about 9×10^{9} Pa·s and less than the average melt creep viscosity of polytetrafluoroethylene of said core.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein in said fluoropolymer particles (c) the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene of said shell is at least 0.1×10^{10} Pa·s less than the average melt creep viscosity of polytetrafluoroethylene of said core.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein in said fluoropolymer particles (c) the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene of said shell is at least 0.2×10^{10} Pa·s less than the average melt creep viscosity of polytetrafluoroethylene of said core.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the average melt creep viscosity of the polytetrafluoroethylene or modified polytetrafluoroethylene of said shell of said fluoropolymer particles (c) is about 9×10^{9} Pa·s to about 1.3×10^{10} Pa·s.

22. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said shell of said fluoropolymer particles (c) comprises about 5 to about 30% by weight of said fluoropolymer particles.

23. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the fluoropolymer particles (c) are fibrillating.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said shell of said fluoropolymer particles (c) is polytetrafluoroethylene.

25. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said fluoropolymer particles (c) have a melt creep viscosity of greater than about 1.4×10^{10} Pa·s.